value of clearances of all exciseable goods did not exceed Rs. 2 crores in the preceding financial year and do not exceed Rs. 2 crores in the current financial year in which the concessions are availed.

The limit of value of clearances of goods in a financial year for the purpose of obtaining a central excise licence has been prescribed at Rs. 15 lakhs.

(b) In his budget speech for 1990-91, the then Union Finance Minister proposed to re-introduce a Central Investment Subsidy for small scale units in rural areas and backward regions.

A proposal for Central Investment Subsidy for small scale units in rural areas and backward regions is under examination in consultation with the concerned Ministries/ Departments.

Bills of States pending assent by the President

712. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of state bills, pending the assent of the President of India as on date; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) As on 28.2.1991, there were 70 State Bills requiring Presidential assent. Sate-wise information is given in the enclosed Statement.

Of these, 44 Bills were pending for want of necessary clarifications from the concerned State Governments. The remaining were under various stages of consideration in consultation with the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments of Government of India.

Statement

Pending Bills State-wise

States	No. of Bills
Andhra Pradesh	8
Assam	7
Bihar	3
Goa	2
Haryana	5
Himachal Pradesh	1
Karnataka	4
Madhya Pradesh	1
Manipur	6
Meghalaya	2
Orisa	3
Rajasthan	6
Sikkim	2
Tamil Nadu	6
Tripura	4
Utar Pradesh	2
West Bengal	8
Total:	70

Sick industrial units in Orissa

713. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of medium and small scale industria units in Orissa which fell sick as on the 31st March, 1990;

(b) the reasons of the growing sickness of industrial units in that state;

(c) whether steps have been taken by Government to revive some of those sick units; and

(d) if so, the details of the small and medium sick units revived in Orissa as on 31st January; 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA) (a) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks in the country are collected by Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by them. According to the latest data available from the Reserve Bank of India, the number of Small, Medium and Large scale sick industrial units under the SSI and non-SSI categories as at the end of December, 1988 in Orissa in indicated as under:

No. of Non-SSI sick units	No. of SSI sick units
13	8,858

(b) A number of causes, both external and internal, are responsible for industrial sickness in the country. Among the major causes as reported by bank are marketing problems, financial problems, labour problems, management deficiencies, power shortage, demand recession, natural calamities, production problems etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Based on the half-yearly returns received from the Banks, two Sick SSI units have been revived in the State of Orissa as at the end of December, 1988. However, 158 SSI units have been put under the nursing programme.

Recommendations of bipartite committee on industrial relation laws

714. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to implement the recommendations of the bipartite commitee on Industrial Relation laws is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, by when those recommendations are likely to be implemented;

(c) whether the State Governments have submitted their views on the matter; and

(d) the steps taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MININSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Comments from several State Governments are yet to be received. It is also proposed to place the matter for consideration in the next session of the Indian Labour Conference.

Protection to tea gardens in Assam

715. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether tea gardens in Asam need proper protection;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to send CRPF or create separate security guards for tea gardens; and

(c) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The question of security of personnel working in tea-industry was discussed by the Chief Secretary, Government of Asam with their representatives and they have agreed to strengthen their protective arrangements.

Grant of ex-gratia under CPF Scheme

716. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fourth Pay Commission had recommended grant of ex-gratia to those retired under CPF scheme;